2026-2027

ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

MONTPELIER EXEMPTED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

This handbook is being presented to you because your son or daughter desires to participate in interscholastic athletics at Montpelier Schools. You have also expressed your willingness to permit him/her to compete. Your family's interest in this phase of our school program is gratifying. We believe that participation in sports provides a wealth of opportunities and experiences which assist students in personal growth and development.

The Montpelier School District is interested in the development of young men and women through athletics. We feel that a properly controlled, well-organized sports program meets students' needs for self-expression, mental alertness, and physical growth. It is our hope to maintain a program that is sound in purpose and will further each student's educational maturity.

Likewise, we believe that you have committed yourself to certain responsibilities and obligations as the parent of an athlete. We would like to take this opportunity to acquaint you with specific policies that are necessary for a well-organized program of athletics.

It is the role of the athletic department to make rules governing interscholastic competition. These rules need broad-based community support to be fully effective. This is achieved only through communication between the athletic department and the community. We hope to accomplish this objective through this athletic handbook.

Yours in scholarship, sportsmanship, and success,

Joseph A. Brigle	Steve Arnold	Mike Bumb
Athletic Director	Montpelier HS Principal	Montpelier JH Principal

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL ATHLETIC SCHEDULES
ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON-LINE AT

http://www.montpelier.k12.oh.us/

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Statement of Montpelier Schools: Athletic Philosophy

The Montpelier Schools athletic program should provide a variety of experiences to aid in the development of favorable habits and attitudes in students that will prepare them for adult life in a democratic society. The interscholastic athletic program shall be conducted in accordance with existing Board of Education policies, rules, and regulations. The Board discourages any and all pressures that might tend to neglect good sportsmanship and good mental health. At all times the athletic program must be conducted in such a way so as to be justified as an educational activity.

Athletic Goal and Objectives

Goal: The student athlete shall become a more effective citizen in a democratic society.
Objectives: The student athlete shall learn teamwork. To work with others in a democratic society, a person must develop self-discipline, respect for authority, and the spirit of hard work and sacrifice. *Athletes must place the team and its objectives higher than personal desires.*

- To be successful: Our society is very competitive. We do not always win, but we succeed when we continually strive to do so. You can learn to accept defeat only by striving to win with earnest dedication. Develop a desire to excel.
- Sportsmanship: To accept success and defeat like a true sportsman, knowing you have done your best. We must learn to treat others as we would have others treat us. We need to develop desirable social traits, including emotional control, honesty, cooperation, and dependability.
- To improve: Continual improvement is essential to good citizenship. As an athlete, you must establish a goal and constantly try to reach that goal. Try to better yourself in the skills involved and, in those characteristics, set forth as being desirable.
- Enjoy athletics: It is necessary to acknowledge all of the personal rewards we derive from athletics, and to give sufficiently of ourselves in order to preserve and improve the program.
- To develop desirable personal health habits: To be an active, contributing citizen, it is important to obtain a high degree of physical fitness through exercise and good health habits, and to develop a desire to maintain this level of physical fitness after formal competition has been completed.

Responsibilities of a Montpelier Athlete

Becoming a member of a Montpelier athletic team is the fulfillment of an early ambition for many students. The attainment of this goal carries with it certain traditions and responsibilities that must be maintained. A great athletic tradition is not built overnight. It takes hard work of many people over many years. As a member of an interscholastic squad, you have inherited a wonderful tradition, a tradition you are challenged to uphold.

Our tradition has been to win with honor. We desire to win, but only with honor to our athletes, our school, and our community. Such a tradition is worthy of the best efforts of all concerned. Over many years our squads have achieved league and

tournament championships. Many individuals have set records and won all-conference and all-state honors. When you wear the school colors, we assume that you not only understand our traditions, but also are willing to assume the responsibilities that go with them. However, your contributions should be personally satisfying to you. You owe it to yourself to get the greatest possible good from your school experiences. Your studies, your participation in other extra-curricular activities as well as in sports, prepare you for life as an adult.

Another responsibility you assume as a squad member is to your school. Montpelier cannot have outstanding programs unless you do your best in whatever activity you wish to engage. By participating in athletics to the utmost of your ability, you are contributing to the reputation of your school. You assume a leadership role when you are on an athletic squad. The student body and citizens of the community know you and will judge our school by your conduct and attitudes, both on and off the field. Because of this leadership role, you can contribute greatly to school spirit and community pride. Make Montpelier proud of you and your community proud of your school by your faithful exemplification of these ideals. As a squad member, you also bear a heavy responsibility to your home. You should never give your family anything of which to be ashamed. You must measure up to all of the training rules. You should practice and play to the best of your ability every day. The younger students are watching you. They will copy you in many ways. Set good examples for the young.

Because players are admired and respected, they exert a great deal of influence over the actions and behavior of the spectators. It is important that players embrace the following behaviors:

- Treat opponents with the respect that is due to them as guests and as fellow human beings.
- Shake hands with opponents and wish them a good game when appropriate.
- Exercise self-control at all times, accepting the judgment of the officials/coaches as just that, the best judgment they could make given what they know and see. Never argue or make gestures indicating lack of respect for the officials'/coaches' judgment.
- Accept both victory and defeat with pride and compassion. Congratulate opponents in a sincere manner following either victory or defeat.
- Accept seriously the responsibility and privilege of representing the school and community.
- Players must follow team rules established by coaches as well as the code of conduct.

Sportsmanship Philosophy

- The athletic department believes that interscholastic competition involving member schools of the Ohio High School Athletic Association should be governed by the basic principles of good sportsmanship. This document has been prepared to ensure that all participants have a common understanding of those basic principles.

- We believe that participation is as important as winning. We believe that students should be coached to play to the best of their ability and to understand that to play

well is to play honorably. The promotion of sportsmanship is the obligation of all school personnel (principals, athletic directors, and coaches) and is directed to the behavior of spectators, coaches, and players. An additional component to consider is coaches' ethics. We believe the development of good sportsmanship through the practice of ethical behavior and moral reasoning is one of the acknowledged objectives of interscholastic athletics. We, therefore, expect school administrators, coaches, athletes, cheerleaders, and spectators to know and embrace the fundamentals of sportsmanship.

Ejection of Student/Athletes from Athletic Contests

- By adoption of the Ohio High School Athletic Association, any student/athlete ejected from an interscholastic contest for unsportsmanlike conduct or a flagrant foul shall be ineligible for contests for the remainder of that day as well as for all contests in that sport until two (2) regular season/tournament contests are played at the same level as the ejection (one contest in football).

- A student/athlete under suspension may sit on the team bench/sideline area, enter the locker room, and be affiliated with the team in any way traveling to, during, or traveling after the contest(s). Athlete may NOT participate in any pre-game activity or wear any pre-game or game uniform.

- If the ejection occurs in the last contest of the season, the student/athlete shall be ineligible for the same period of time as stated above in the next sport in which the student/athlete participates.

- A student/athlete who has been ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct for the second time shall be suspended for the remainder of the season in that sport. A student who has been ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct for the second time in the season during the last contest shall be ineligible for a period of time/number of contests subject to the discretion of the commissioner. The period of ineligibility shall commence during the next sport in which the student participates.

- It is the responsibility of the local school authorities to ensure that this regulation is enforced. When an ineligible student-athlete is allowed to participate, forfeiture of the contest is mandatory. This regulation shall apply to all regular season and tournament contests and shall in no way limit the discretionary authority of the commissioner as specified in the O.H.S.A.A. Tournament Regulations. In accordance with O.H.S.A.A. Bylaw 8-3-1, the decisions of contest officials are final.

Game Workers/Students/Statisticians/Trainers

- These individual groups are considered participants of the game and should follow the same guidelines as players/cheerleaders during any athletic contest. You are representing our school district, so be positive and respectful at all times.

Spectators

- Partisan spectators, by their behaviors and reactions, determine to a large extent the reputation for sportsmanship of their school. Spectators should be reminded and should keep in mind that athletes are friendly rivals as members of opposing amateur teams. They are expected to be treated as such. Spectators should be reminded, too, that the contest should be between the teams engaged in the competition and not between their supporters. It is important that all spectators embrace the following:

    - Know and demonstrate the fundamentals of sportsmanship
    - Respect, cooperate, and respond enthusiastically to the cheerleaders, coaches, and athletes of all teams
    - Censure fellow spectators whose behavior is inappropriate
    - Be positive toward players and coaches regardless of the outcome of the contest
    - Respect the judgment and the professionalism of the officials and coaches

Spectator inappropriate behavior

- Verbal/physical abuse of game official, administrator and/or coaches.
- Berating players, coaches, or other spectators through:
    - Chants
    - Signs
    - Cheers
- Interruption of contest:
    - Throwing objects on playing area
    - Entering playing area
    - Disruptive behavior
- Suggested disciplinary actions:
    - Removal from contest
    - Conference/hearing with school officials
    - Removal from future athletic contests

Athletic Code of Conduct

- A firm and fair policy of enforcement is necessary to uphold the regulations and standards of the athletic department. The community, school administrators, and the coaching staff feel strongly that high standards of conduct and citizenship are essential in maintaining a sound program of athletics. The welfare of the student is our major consideration and transcends any other consideration. The conduct of an athlete is closely observed in many areas of life. It is important that your behavior be above reproach in all of the following areas:

- In the classroom: Strong academics reinforce strong athletics. As an athlete, you must plan your schedule so that you give sufficient time and energy to your studies. In addition to maintaining strong academics, an athlete should give respectful attention to classroom activities and show respect for other students and faculty at all times.

- School discipline referral: Any student referred to the office for a rules violation may be denied the privilege of participation in all athletic activities for a period determined by either the principal or athletic director.

- On the field: In the area of athletic competition, a true athlete does not use profanity or illegal tactics and understands that losing is part of the game. You should be gracious in defeat and modest in victory. It is always courteous to congratulate the opponent on a well-played game after the contest, whether in defeat or victory.

- The Montpelier Athletic Department believes that there is no such thing as a responsible use of controlled substances/mood-altering chemicals, alcohol, or tobacco by any high school student. Adolescent use is not only against the law -- it jeopardizes the student's health and safety, and it inhibits attainment of individual potential. Therefore, any use of controlled substances/mood-altering drugs, alcohol, or tobacco by student athletes will not be tolerated. **We believe that participation in athletics is a privilege, not a right.**

- The following infractions and consequences are in effect and *will be enforced for twelve (12) months of the year* and will carry over to the next season of participation. Consequences will be cumulative during middle school years and high school years. (High school begins the day after completion of the middle school year.)
    - ***The superintendent, principal or athletic director may accelerate any punishment ahead where they deem necessary.***

List of minor infractions of the code of conduct will be as follows but not limited to:

MINOR

- Break coaches' rules
- Disrespect to officials, fans and/or players
- Unexcused absences from practices and/or games
- Use of profanity in practice and/or games
- Class room mis-behavior
- Detentions- (Lunch & After School)
- Curfew violations
- School Suspension (in school)
- Any other infraction deemed necessary by coach, athletic director or principal

CONSEQUENCE

The head coach of each sport will handle most minor infractions on a day to day basis according to the coaches rules/procedures. If an athlete is consistently breaking these minor rules, then the head coach will refer the athlete to the principal and/or athletic director for a more severe punishment.

List of major infractions of the code of conduct will be as follows but not limited to:

MAJOR

- Drinking violation of any kind
- Drug violation of any kind
- Tobacco violation of any kind
- Use of steroid or illegal performance enhancing drugs
- DUI or OVI
- Vandalism of personal or public property
- Inappropriate use of social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc)
- Theft
- Hazing
- School suspensions (out of school)
- Gross misconduct
- Any other infraction deemed necessary by coach, athletic director or principal

CONSEQUENCES

- **1st offense**
    - Denied participation for 30% of the scheduled regular season and post season, scrimmages do NOT count.
    - Games must be played and completed in order to count towards suspension total
        - Cheerleading will follow Football and Basketball totals.
    - Loss of any leadership position in athletic activities for the remainder of the school year. Future leadership positions are at the discretion of the head coach.
- **2nd offense**
    - Denied participation for one sports season in athletics from the date of the offense
- **3rd offense**
    - Denied participation of athletics for one calendar year (365 days) from the date of the offense
    - Athlete/parents will be required to meet with Athletic Director and Coaches to discuss the expectations and requirements of their reinstatement

- If the infraction occurs during a season, the athlete will miss the number of games left in the current season and the remaining number will go immediately to the start of the next sport season played. Post season games will be used if applicable.

School Suspensions

- Out of School Suspension
    - Athletes will NOT be permitted to attend or take part in any team activities on days serving out of school suspensions including practices, team functions and/or games. This includes school transportation to and from the game.
    - In the event there are no games scheduled on days of the out of school suspension, athletes will serve a 1 game suspension at the next scheduled game on the team calendar.
- In School Suspension
    - Any athlete that is given an in-school suspension will be subject to discipline actions by the team's head coach or acting head coach
    - Athletes may take part in ALL team activities on days that an in-school suspension is being served.

Anabolic Steroids

- Anabolic steroid use at the high school level is of grave concern. Steroids are used by some athletes in sports and the seriousness of the problem has been well documented. Steroids can with proper diet and weight training increase muscle development, however as is typical with most "get rich quick" schemes steroid use has serious short- and long-term consequences. The use of steroids in sports is considered to be cheating. But the issue goes beyond protecting the integrity of interscholastic competition. The Montpelier Athletic Department stands opposed to the use of steroids by athletes and all members of the student body because of health and ethical concerns.

Dietary & Energy Supplements

- The Montpelier Athletic Department is opposed to any storage, distribution or usage of dietary or energy supplements on school property or team function. Students will not be permitted to store or use any dietary or energy supplements on school property or at any team function. If any type of dietary or energy supplement is found on school property or at a team function, it will be confiscated immediately. Parents will be notified in all cases.

Academic Requirements

- Athletic participation is a privilege, predicated on the academic achievement of each individual student. The quarterly academic eligibility policy for Montpelier Schools, will be determined by two factors: grade point average, and earned credit.
    - Any athlete that is ineligible for an entire quarter will not be permitted to join any in-season team or do any off-season activities. Summer does NOT apply.
    - Each high school athlete must maintain a 1.25 Grade Point Average. Incoming freshman are eligible if they meet the Junior High standards during the last grading period.
    - Each high school athlete must be passing the equivalent of five (5) one-credit classes.

- All junior high athletes must be passing a minimum of (5) subjects from the preceding quarter. Incoming 7th grade students have no requirements to be eligible for first quarter of their fall 7th grade season. Eligibility will begin for incoming 7th graders at the end of the first quarter.

- During any nine-week period, any student-athlete in an extra-curricular activity that has a failing grade will be suspended from any extra-curricular event/games until all failing grades reach passing status. Grades will be checked every Wednesday starting the third week of each quarter. Student athletes that are failing any class on Wednesday have until Friday 3:00 pm of that week to be passing all classes or become immediately ineligible. Athlete (s) may continue to practice each day but will not be permitted to participate in any games or scrimmages until all grades reach passing status. The athletic director will notify the coach/advisor when the grade has reached passing status.

  - Athletes that show up on the failing list three or more consecutive weeks during a quarter **<u>may</u>** be removed from any team or club for the remainder of the season.

- If the student-athlete ends a quarter/semester with an F, they will be suspended from their team/club for the first two weeks of the next quarter. The student-athlete will regain eligibility if grades are at a passing status when collected on the third Wednesday of the new quarter. If current grades are not passing, the student will remain ineligible until all grades reach passing status. Athlete (s) may continue to practice each day but will not be permitted to participate in any games or scrimmages until all grades reach passing status.

- HS athletes that end the school year failing one class but are passing five (1) credit classes and have a 1.25 GPA or higher will begin their academic suspension starting the first day of school the following year. Athlete (s) may continue to practice each day but will not be permitted to participate in any games or scrimmages until all grades reach passing status.

- JH athletes that end the school year failing one class but are passing a minimum of four subjects will begin their academic suspension starting the first day of school the following year. Athlete (s) may continue to practice each day but will not be permitted to participate in any games or scrimmages until all grades reach passing status.

- Online Classes
  - An online course will be counted the same as a course taught in a traditional setting. Students that are enrolled in an online class will be held to the same accountability as students that are taking classes in the traditional setting.

  - Students must meet specific requirements with regards to both grade and completion percentages that are established by the administration. The base

requirements would be for a student to have a passing grade and meet the following requirements: 25% of a semester long course done midway through the 1st quarter, 50% of a semester long course completed at the end of the 1st quarter, 75% of semester long course completed midway through the 2nd quarter, and 100% of the semester long course completed by the end of the 2nd quarter. Students will remain under suspension from participating in athletic/extracurricular contests/events until their grade is passing and completion percentage is greater than or equal to the percent of the semester that has expired.

- Students that start online classes after the beginning of the semester will be placed onto a schedule that is set by the administration. The schedule will be based upon the percentage of the semester that has expired.

- Percentage will be calculated based upon days in school that are scheduled for the quarter per the official school calendar.

Absence Policy

- All games and practices are mandatory. All players must be on time unless arranged with the coach prior to practice or game.
    - Consequences for unexcused absences from practice:
        1st unexcused- disciplined by the coach
        2nd unexcused- one game suspension
        3rd unexcused- removal from the team
    - Consequences for unexcused absences from a game:
        1st unexcused- one game suspension
        2nd unexcused- removal from the team
- **Excused** absences include:
    - Family emergencies
    - Funerals
    - Teacher consultations
    - Medical appointments
    - School sponsored activities

**The coaches must have a note 3 days prior to the absence for it to be excused unless it is an emergency.

- Players that miss a practice/game or are late to a practice/game for a detention will also be punished at the coach's discretion.

Practice/Game Day Participation

- In order to participate in any school day practice or contest, athletes must be in attendance for all class periods before 11:21 a.m. or after 11:21 a.m. (either periods 1-4 or 5-8). Field trips, alternate learning experiences, concurrent enrollment, medical/dental appointments, funerals and special family situations may be excused with proper written documentation or administrative approval.

Spring Break

- The athletic council and administration realize that there are times when families must spend time together. However, a student athlete who misses practices or games because of spring break must realize that these absences may jeopardize the coach's ability to evaluate their skill level. Both parent and athletes must realize that any time missed will only serve to diminish team unity and to cause disruption in any established chemistry amongst the team members. The coaches and athletic administration fully support families spending time together. We understand that not all families can take vacations at specific times of the year but insist that all spring break vacations be done during the school approved spring break.

- Excused: If an athlete is gone on days during school approved spring break which is considered to be from Saturday to following Sunday. Athletes must submit a written note from a parent/guardian to the head coach no later than the first official practice of the spring season. Note must provide exact dates that athlete will be absent from any team activities. Failure to submit proper written notice by the athlete will result in unexcused absence during time missed. Spring break dates are highlighted on the board approved school calendar.

- Unexcused: If athlete misses any practices and/or games prior to spring break or after spring break which is considered to be Saturday to the following Sunday. Spring break dates are highlighted on the board approved school calendar.

  Consequences for unexcused days during Spring break are as follows:
  1) 1-3 days (practices/games) missed: suspended one contest
  2) 4-6 days (practices/games) missed: suspended two contests
  3) 7+ days (practices/games) missed: suspended three contests

  - Any athlete that is or has a sibling attending Four County may be excused from team activities during Four County's spring break if it differs from our board approved spring break week. A parental note must be presented to the head coach by the first official day of practice detailing the dates the athlete will be missing activities.

Holiday Breaks

- Any practices and/or games missed during any holiday break will NOT jeopardize the player's status on the team, however the following consequences will be administered for absences during this time:
  - Any practice missed during these breaks will result in playing time reduction during the next game on the schedule. Length of time will be determined by head coach.
  - Any games missed during these breaks will result in a one game suspension upon return at the next game on the team schedule

Final Forms

- All athletes must complete all required forms on Final Forms before beginning practice. Students will be denied participation to all practices/contests until all paperwork has been signed and submitted on Final Forms. No exceptions will be made.

Dismissal, Quit or Adding to a Team

- An athlete that quits or is dismissed from a team after the first two weeks of scheduled practice will be ineligible to participate in any other sport, activity (practice, open gym, weight training, etc.) until that current sport season is completed. A season shall be defined to include post season tournaments as well as the regular season. Talk with your immediate head coach before making any drastic decisions.

- If any student athlete, at the conclusion of the season, is not a team member in good standing due to dismissal from team, academically ineligible or quits, the athlete will forfeit the privilege to attend the sports award presentation and to receive all letters and/or awards. Additionally, all athletes are required to turn in all school issued uniforms and equipment. If the athlete fails to do so, they will be declared ineligible to start another sport and will not be able to receive their certificate, letter, or awards of the sport they participated in.

- Athletes have up to 14 days after the official OHSAA start date to join any athletic team. Athletes will NOT be permitted to join any team after this time frame has expired.
    - **Exception 1**- Any student who moves or transfers into the Montpelier District will be exempt from this policy. Transfer students must abide by the OHSAA Transfer Policy.

*Athletes who have started the season in one sport BUT decide to switch to another sport within the same season and within the first 14 days must:

- Notify the athletic director and coaches from each sport involved that athlete will be transferring teams.
- Athlete must have parental approval before switch can happen.

Transportation

- All athletes are expected to ride to and from contests in a school bus or van. In special situations a parent/guardian/custodian may transport his or her child, with written permission from the parent/guardian/custodian presented to the coach in advance. Students will only be permitted to ride with their own parents or guardian.

Facility Use

- All Montpelier student/athletes must have proper supervision when using any school owned facility. Proper supervision will be defined as any school employee and/or any adult approved by the Montpelier Administration.

Social Media

- Social media is a popular trend in today's society. The Montpelier Athletic Department will not tolerate the inappropriate use of any social media source. Inappropriate behavior online or disrespectful comments made towards another person, school or school faculty member will be subject to punishment. If this policy is violated, consequences will follow the "Major" violation section.

Uniforms and Equipment

- Uniforms: In some sports, the athlete will be required to purchase a portion of the game uniform, which will become his or her property.

- Equipment: **The athlete is responsible for the proper care and security of equipment issued to him or her. All equipment either not returned, or returned with excessive wear will be subject to a financial penalty for the athlete.**

- All equipment issued to a player is to be worn only at practice or scheduled games or scrimmages involving that particular sport. Exceptions must be approved by the coach (i.e. jerseys).
- Before any item is attached, permanently adhered to, removed from, or worn with a uniform that is issued to an athlete for a specific sport, it must be cleared by the head coach.
- Each athlete is responsible for all equipment issued. Keep it clean and in the best possible condition. The school district is not responsible for lost or stolen equipment. It is suggested athletes use a lock on athletic lockers to avoid theft.
- All athletic equipment is the property of the Board of Education and the athletic department; therefore, school equipment may not be taken from the school building for the use of any other organization or for personal use. Any exception must be approved by the coach or athletic director.
- All equipment issued to an athlete must be returned at the end of the school season. Equipment that is not returned for any reason or is damaged beyond normal wear and tear must be paid for at REPLACEMENT cost. Equipment is to be returned or lost equipment paid for within one week of the last contest of the sport. Any athlete who has not returned or paid for lost equipment within one week will be denied the right to participate in athletics until the equipment is returned or paid for.
- Under certain circumstances equipment (i.e. uniforms) can be sold to team members at the end of the season. This sale will be controlled by the head coach and athletic director. The price will be set by the athletic director and will be the REPLACEMENT cost of the item. The money will be collected by the head coach prior to equipment being given to the athlete.

Locker Section

- 3313.20 of the Ohio Revised Code authorizes a Board of Education to adopt a policy which authorizes a principal to search any student locker and the contents thereof upon reasonable suspicion that the contents contain evidence of a criminal or school rule violation. Lockers remain the property of the Montpelier School District while on loan to students and are, therefore, subject to supervision and inspection by school authorities whenever and wherever necessary. It is the student's responsibility to use lockers for school purposes only. Lockers are not to be used for articles which may be of such nature as to be harmful, dangerous, in violation of school or legal restrictions, or disruptive to the school process. Such articles are subject to confiscation. Students are not permitted to permanently mark or deface the outside of lockers. In the instance of a student violating the locker rule, the student will be assessed a fine.

Hazing

- Hazing in athletic activities is prohibited. Hazing is defined as doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation toward any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk for causing mental or physical harm to any person. No student athlete shall plan, encourage, or engage in any form of hazing in practices, competition, or performances. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by an individual subject to hazing does not lessen the prohibition contained in this policy. The student athlete may be denied participation from athletics for violation of this policy.

Age Limitation: Ohio High School Athletic Association

- We abide by the Ohio High School Athletic Association policy. That policy can be found at www.ohsaa.org

Residence Requirements

- We abide by the Ohio High School Athletic Association policy. That policy can be found at www.ohsaa.org

Transfer Policy

- We abide by the Ohio High School Athletic Association policy. That policy can be found at www.ohsaa.org

Dual Sports Policy

- The Montpelier Athletic Department may allow athletes to participate in two sports in the same season. Athletes and parents must understand that dual sporting is a privilege not a right. The purpose of dual sporting is to help increase program numbers and utilize the skills of an athlete for multiple sports during the same season. Both in-season head coaches and the athletic director must unanimously agree on each athlete before any contact can be made to an athlete and/or parent. Athletes that are permitted to dual sport must following the contract for both in-season sports or the contract will be terminated immediately.

Contracts will be drafted for each individual athlete with the help of both head coaches, athletic director and parent (s).

- The following procedure will be used in determining dual sporting for any athlete:

    - In-season head coach and athletic director meet prior to the official start date of the upcoming season. Official dates are determined the OHSAA .
    - Head coaches and athletic director will identify any possible candidates for dual sporting for upcoming season.
    - Any possible candidates will be notified to gauge interest level for dual sporting.
    - Head coaches, athletic director, athlete and parent will meet to discuss the possibility and/or create a contract that will fit each program and athlete's schedule.
    - Athlete must select a "major" and "minor" sport. The major will take precedence during the post season.
    - Athlete must be a varsity player in one sport of the two sports.
    - Athlete must have a 2.8 cumulative GPA or higher.
    - Athlete must list all extra-curricular activities or clubs they are involved in during that season.
    - Junior High and freshman athletes will not be permitted to dual sport

Earning a Varsity, Junior Varsity Letter and Numerals

It is desired that the letter "M" be something the athlete must earn by athletic ability, but not be so unattainable that only the outstanding athlete can achieve it. It is also desired that the coach of each sport determine who receives the letter. It is the firm belief of the Montpelier Athletic Department that awards earned should be worn with dignity and class. Athletes are to display their awards in such a manner and are expected to behave in an appropriate manner when wearing them; the athlete represents the team and the school when wearing the award — actions that detract from a positive image will not be accepted.

One must perform or meet the following:

- Varsity Letter: Participate in at least half the varsity quarters, innings, matches & meets. Coaches will make decision.
- Numerals: Numerals will be provided with varsity letter.
- Certificate: All high school athletes who don't receive a varsity letter will receive their certificate of participation.
- Certificate- All junior high athletes will receive a certificate recognizing each sport they participated in for that current school year.
- All students who have been selected to compile statistics, be a student manager or help the athletic trainer for a sports team must do so satisfactorily for the entire season to obtain any award at the end of each season.

Senior Night

- The athletic department will recognize senior athletes and their parents during senior night designated by the athletic director. Parents will be admitted free for that night's contest.

Practice Sessions

- Any TEAM may practice on Sunday's but it will be on a ***voluntary*** basis. No MHS athletic TEAM will make practices ***Mandatory*** on a Sunday. If a practice occurs on a Sunday, it must be between the hours of 1pm and 6pm.

- There will be no practices scheduled on Thanksgiving Day or Christmas Day.

- TEAMS may practice on New Year's Day or Christmas Eve Day but practice must be concluded by 1 pm.

- In the event of cancellation of school, practices may continue at the coach's discretion. However, practices during bad weather cannot be mandatory. Practice sessions starting dates will be no sooner than allowable dates set by the Ohio High School Athletic Association.

- Any student not in school at least half of the day, he/she may not participate in practice unless prior arrangements are made with the principal or athletic director.

- All practices on Wednesday night must be done at 6:30pm. Student athletes may be excused for church or youth groups before this time with a parental note. This will not count as an unexcused absence from practice.

Concussion/Return to Play Protocol

- In the event that an athlete shows symptoms of a concussion by the athletic trainer and/or a doctor, the Montpelier Exempted Village School District/Athletic Training Staff will follow the Return to Play Protocol listed below:
    1. No exertional activity until asymptomatic.
    2. Step 1-When the athlete appears clear, begin low-impact activity such as walking, stationary bike etc.
    3. Step 2-Initiate aerobic activity fundamental to specific sport and may also begin progressive strength training activities.
    4. Step 3-Begin non-contact skill drills specific to sport.
    5. Step 4-Full contact in practice setting.

Squad/Group/Team Selections

- It is the philosophy of Montpelier Exempted Village Schools that participation in extracurricular activities is open to as many students as possible. However, due to limitations in space, equipment, participants allowed, participant's needs and numbers of coaches/supervisors, it may be necessary to limit the number of participants in a particular activity/sport. When such selections are necessary, the following principles will apply:

1. Criteria for selections will be established by the head coach/supervisor. Criteria must be approved by the athletic director prior to the beginning of the process.
2. Criteria will be explained to all participants prior to the try-out, practices, etc.
    - The total number to be selected, positions available (if applicable) and selection date will be announced before the try-outs/selection process begins.
3. Explanation of Selection Process
    - Head Coach/Supervisor will present final list to Athletic Director for approval.
    - Coaches/Supervisors will meet individually with the participants who are rejected and explain why.
    - No final list or rankings will be posted.

Curfew

- For the purpose of this section the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning:
    1. "Establishment" means any privately owned place of business carried on for a profit or any place of amusement or entertainment to which the public is invited.
    2. "Juvenile" means any person under the age of eighteen years.
    3. "Operator" means any individual, firm, association, partnership, or corporation operating, managing, or conducting any establishment. Whenever used in any clause prescribing a penalty, the term operator as applied to an association or partnership shall include the members or partners thereof and as applied to a corporation, shall include the officers thereof.
    4. "Parent" means any natural parent, guardian, or any adult person, eighteen years of age or over, responsible for the care and custody of a juvenile.
    5. "Public place" means any public street, highway, road, alley, park, playground, public building, vacant lot, or public park.
    6. "Remain" means loiter, idle, wander, drive, stroll, or play in or upon.

- No juvenile shall remain in or upon any public place or any establishment between 10:30 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. of the following day, except that on Friday nights and Saturday nights, the hours shall be from 12:30 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to a juvenile accompanied by a parent, nor to a juvenile engaged upon an errand or other legitimate business directed in writing by such juvenile's parents and carried upon the juvenile's person, nor to any juvenile who is engaged in lawful, gainful employment during curfew hours.

- No parent shall knowingly permit any juvenile to remain in or upon any public place or any establishment between 10:30 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. of the following day, except that on Friday nights and Saturday nights, the hours shall be from 12:30 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any parent who accompanies a juvenile, nor to a parent who directs a juvenile upon an errand or other legitimate

business in writing carried upon the juvenile's person, nor to any parent of a juvenile engaged in lawful gainful employment during the curfew hours.

- No operator of an establishment or his agent or employee shall knowingly permit any juvenile to remain upon the premises of such establishment between 10:30 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. of the following day, official village time, except that on Friday nights and Saturday nights, the hours shall be from 12:30 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.
    1. Any police officer who finds a juvenile violating any provision of this section shall obtain information from such juvenile as to his name, address, age, and the name of his parent or parents. The juvenile shall thereupon be instructed to proceed to his home forthwith. The information obtained from the juvenile shall be forwarded to the county juvenile court, which shall cause a written notice to be mailed to the parent or parents of the juvenile advising of the violation of this section.
    2. Any parent who violates any provision of this section after having received notice of a prior violation is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.
    3. Any operator of an establishment and any agent or employee of any operator who violates any provision of this chapter is guilty of a minor misdemeanor.
    4. Each violation of any provision of this section shall constitute a separate offense.
    5. Any juvenile who violates any provision of this section is included in the definition of a delinquent child under Ohio R.C. 2151.02(A).

    (Ord. 476. Passed 12-2-74.)

Additional Information

- College Recruitment Policy: In the event an athlete should be contacted personally by a college recruiter, he/she has an obligation to work through his/her coach and the athletic department. Inform your coach of such a contact as soon as possible. College recruitment information is available in the athletic department.

- Conflicts In Extra-Curricular Activities: An individual student who attempts to participate in too many extra-curricular activities will, undoubtedly, be in a position of a conflict of obligations. The athletic department recognizes that each student should have the opportunity for a broad range of experiences in the area of extra-curricular activities and, to this end, will attempt to schedule events in a manner so as to minimize conflicts. Students have a responsibility to do everything they can to avoid a continuous conflict.

    - Due to the time demands on a student athlete, and to protect the sport that is in season, it is not recommended that athletes practice a different sport from which they are currently competing in. However, the head coach of the "in season sport" may grant permission for his or her athlete to participate or practice another sport. This must be communicated to the athletic director.

- This would include being cautious about belonging to too many activities where conflicts are bound to happen. It also means notifying the faculty sponsors involved immediately when a conflict does arise.

- Risk of Participation: All athletes and parents, guardians, or custodians must realize the risk of serious injury, permanent disability, or death which may be a result of athletic participation. The Montpelier School District will use the following safeguards to make every effort to eliminate injury:
    1. Maintain a continuing education program for coaches to learn the most up-to-date techniques and skills to be taught in their sport.

    2. Insurance: Students participating in the athletic program must be protected by an accident insurance policy in one of the following ways: school insurance or a school insurance waiver form signed by the parents stating that they have adequate insurance coverage.

        - The O.H.S.A.A. has purchased a lifetime catastrophic insurance plan that will cover any athlete who is injured to the extent of or more than $25,000 in medical expenses. This is above what accident and health insurance carried by the family pays above $25,000.